ABSTRACT

Methods, systems, computer program products, and methods of doing business whereby managed resources and/or data are identified using a model based on object-oriented techniques. A resource hierarchy is defined for a set of resources/data to be managed, and naming rules are associated with classes in this hierarchy. The naming rules for a particular class describe how to uniquely identify resources of that class among more than one management system and in a way that is independent of the management system. The identities are structured strings created using the naming rules of the class to which the resource/data belongs. Structural restrictions placed on the structured strings allow any two identities to be compared for equality (using, for example, a simple string comparison).